Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Suicide remains as the tenth leading cause of death overall in the United States and is the second leading cause of death for youth with a total of 44,193 suicides in 2015 nationwide; and,

Whereas, In 2015, there were 173 suicides in South Dakota, 80 percent male and 20 percent female with the highest rate being among individuals 20 to 29 years old; and,

Whereas, In South Dakota, 16.1 percent of high school students have seriously considered suicide; and,

Whereas, Suicide is not inevitable for anyone, therefore, by starting the conversation, providing support, and directing help to those who need it, we can prevent suicides and save lives; and,

Whereas, Research shows people who are having thoughts of suicide feel relief when someone asks after them in a caring way and talking about suicide may reduce rather than increase suicidal ideation; and,

Whereas, There are mental health and crisis intervention services in South Dakota including the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255); and,

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 10–16, 2017, as

SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-third Day of August in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Seventeen.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Shantel Krebs

Shantel Krebs, Secretary of State